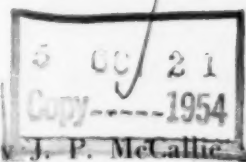


THE SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN JOURNAL

*A Presbyterian weekly magazine devoted to the
statement, defense and propagation of the
Gospel, the faith which was once for
all delivered unto the saints*

OCTOBER 13, 1954



- EVANGELISM By J. P. McCallie
- TEACHING GOD'S WORD IN THE CHURCH SCHOOL
- A JOB FOR MEN AS WELL By Chas. Rhodes Bradford
- A CHRISTIAN'S DEVOTIONS By Wm. A. Sibley
- MEN'S WORK IN OUR CHURCH By Hugh S. Jacobs
- STEWARDSHIP By Kenneth S. Keyes
- A LAYMAN AND WORLD MISSIONS By L. Nelson Bell, M.D.
- PERSONAL EVANGELISM By Robert K. Price
- THE CHRISTIAN AND HIS BUSINESS By Thomas M. Eldridge
- TEST CHECK LIST FOR ELDERS By Roy LeCraw
- KNOWLEDGE AND IGNORANCE By Gordon H. Clark
- FORTY YEARS WORTH OF A LAYMAN

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S

Convention

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EDITORIAL

Laymen's Number

In honor of the laymen of our church, and in special recognition of the Men's Convention in New Orleans, this issue of the *Southern Presbyterian Journal* is dedicated to the men of our church.

All articles in this issue were written by laymen. All editorials were written by a layman, Dr. L. Nelson Bell, Asheville surgeon and Associate Editor of this *Journal*.

To you who see this *Journal* for the first time we would extend a special welcome. It is our constant prayer that God will use this publication for the glory of His Name, the honoring of His Word, the strengthening of faith, the winning of souls, and, the advancement of God's Kingdom.

To those of you in New Orleans: Our thoughts and prayers will be with you as you share in the rich experiences of this gathering.

May God richly bless you each one; may His Son be your living Saviour and Lord; may the Holy Spirit be your constant companion and guide.

—The Editors and Directors.

The Answer

Modern psychological and psychiatric research into the psychoses and neuroses, so prevalent today and probably increasing, come again and again to a conclusion as to the cause which is deeply significant.

This basic cause, whereby an individual develops anti-social and other traits, is again and again laid to a sense of *insecurity* and *inferiority* on the part of the affected person.

We do not question these findings. They result from the unfortunate environments and maladjustments to be found all about it.

But, the Christian has a solution to offer which the unbelieving psychologist does not know. The Christian has an answer to be had in no other way.

What is security and where is it to be found? Only the one who has committed his life to Jesus Christ, accepting Him as Saviour and Lord, has real security. Paul expresses this security *which is open to all believers* when he writes: "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

Where is the confidence which will banish a sense of inferiority? Read the First Psalm and rejoice in God. Take Job as an example and say: "For I know that my redeemer liveth." With Isaiah let us wait upon the Lord and renew our strength. With Paul let us affirm: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Christ, the only answer, is not a trite slogan—it is the central truth of Christianity. In Him men find security. In Him we become more than conquerors.

—L.N.B.

The Simplicity Of The Gospel

A physician, speaking to other physicians about professional matters, often uses terms which are naturally meaningless to the average layman.

There are times when ministers may forget that the layman longs for a simple gospel message and not for abstract discussions on philosophy or ethics.

While Christian truth encompasses depth of thought and meaning which can never be exhausted,

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it is also so gloriously simple that a little child can understand it.

It will be a happy day for the church when all of us are more fully indoctrinated with the Scriptural record of God's dealings with man, His love and His redeeming work through Christ, His Son.

We all need a clearer understanding of the Bible's teaching about sin and its effect and consequences. We all need more instruction regarding the meaning and implications of Salvation.

It can be readily demonstrated that when a man has been brought into a right relationship with Christ, as both Saviour and Lord, he will need little instruction as to how he should act; the Holy Spirit, dwelling in a yielded and consecrated heart, will do the teaching.

What we laymen need is the Gospel in all of its fullness. Give us that and God will enable us to live as responsible Christian citizens. Without such a Christ-centered faith we lack both the wisdom and the power which is essential. —L.N.B.

The Greatest Teacher

Our Lord came into this world lived, died and arose again, in a geographically circumscribed area. Before He went away He explained to His disciples: "It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." Certainly one of the reasons for the coming of the Holy Spirit into the world was that He might perform a *universal* ministry, bringing the truths of redemption and all of the work of Christ to men everywhere; regenerating, convicting, moving, persuading and enabling them, by faith, to accept the Saviour.

The gracious work of the Holy Spirit can never be over estimated nor can it be over stated. It is by His power that the work of God's Kingdom goes forward. It is by His anointing alone that men have power in preaching and in personal living for Christ.

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One of the great works of the Holy Spirit is His teaching ministry,—for it is He Who takes the things of God and His Word and makes them living and real to us.

Just as Presbyterians believe that the Holy Spirit directed the writing of God's Word*, so we believe that He lives today to make that Word plain to those who will hear.

Again and again, as we come to the Book, with open and ready hearts and minds, He speaks to us and we *know the truth*. This teaching ministry is ours for the asking, provided that we are willing to meet His conditions. Just as human instructors lay down certain conditions as the basis for teaching, so the Holy Spirit requires of us an humble heart, a ready mind and a willing spirit. Many of us are denied the blessing of His teaching because of intellectual pride. Many have no sense of His presence because He sees through the sham of our profession and knows we are simply testing, not trusting Him. Finally many come short of the fullness of His blessing because He sees in us no spirit of willingness to really know and do His will.

We believe the intellectual doubts and all of the many other hindrances to those who would go forward in Christian faith, experience and service can *always* be resolved by submitting *our problems and our wills* to the teaching of the Holy Spirit. It is because the tendency of the natural man is to look to self and others for his instruction and wisdom that he *grope*s where he should be walking with *certainty*: "*But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are SPIRITUALLY DISCERNED.*" —L.N.B.

*"By Him (The Holy Spirit) the prophets were moved to speak the word of God, and all the writers of the Holy Scriptures inspired to record infallibly the mind and will of God." Confession of Faith, Chapt. IX:ii.

Random Thoughts

When the major emphasis is in matters of minor importance it is very probable that those things of major importance are being neglected.

Dr. Frank Laubach has emphasized the danger of education. Although he has been responsible for teaching more people to read than any other man in the world's history he insists that those who have learned to read shall immediately receive adequate supplies of Christian literature, otherwise the education they have received will immediately be used for ends worthless or even dangerous.

There is a saying well worth remembering—"Those who stand for nothing are apt to fall for anything."

Some years ago a great actor said to a minister: "You preach like you were dealing with fiction, I act like I am dealing with realities."

Praying for peace reminds one of a patient suffering with appendicitis praying for relief of pain. What he needs is to have the inflamed appendix removed. What man needs to realize is that war and the threat of war are symptoms of sin on the one hand and God's judgment on the other.

Modern pedagogical methods may demand that the teacher present "all sides" of a matter and leave it to the students to decide which they will accept. But, students are not fooled—if a teacher has convictions he cannot refrain from making those convictions evident.

Christians have at hand resources beyond compare. It is their privilege to have the guidance, the wisdom and the help of the Omnipotent God. Yet how often we grope on alone—spiritually wealthy but living like spiritual beggars.

One is being completely illogical to say, "I believe this or that Christian doctrine, not because it is taught in the Bible but because my reason and experience satisfies me that it is true." Suppose one lacks both reason and experience, does this cancel the doctrine?

The Bible has little to say about the desirability of the applause of men: it has much to say about being willing to stand reproach for His sake. In fact the last beatitude expresses one of the paradoxes of Christianity: "*Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.*" Never lose sight of the word "falsely"—the key is there.

If Christians do not express their Christian convictions at the polls they have no right to complain when corruption and inefficiency eventuate. The trouble has been that too many Christians put party before principle.

The fact of the virgin birth is in no way affected by what men may think about it. It is true it remains no matter how often or by whom it may be denied. To say: "Belief in the virgin birth is not essential to salvation" is to say that facts having to do with the deity of our Lord are nonessential.

—L.N.B.

EVANGELISM

By J. P. McCallie

President McCallie School
Elder First Presbyterian Church
Chattanooga, Tenn.

Parallel with that great answer to the catechism question, "What is the chief end of man?" the Westminster divines of 1647 should have placed another in answer to the question, "What is the chief end of the church?" This is it: "The Church's chief end is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and to reign with Him forever."

From the Great Commission, Dr. Arthur T. Pierson deduces: "Witnessing to Christ is the whole work of the whole Church for the whole age." Surely the Lord showed by His last words to His disciples that the most important business of His Church was not good organization, or stewardship, or prayer, or Bible study, but simply witnessing to others about what Christ has done for us. Who He is and what He can do for them.

In Acts 1:8 is the Promise, the Power, the Plan, and the Program for His Church, until He comes again. This was beautifully illustrated on the Day of Pentecost. After they obeyed the Lord and tarried in prayer, the Promise of the Father, the Holy Spirit, came upon them, they spoke the word with Power, boldly, and so clearly all understood the wonderful works of God. This simple Plan of witnessing to those around them, "beginning in Jerusalem," was sufficient to build His Church.

The Plan worked! There were 3,000 converts in one day, all Jews, and that too in Jerusalem where less than two months before they had crucified the Lord. Soon there were 5,000, just ten times as many as our Lord won in three years of ministry. The Plan works still wherever it is tried. As Dr. Conant states, "Every member evangelism is Christ's plan."

But they were so enamored with the success of the Plan, the apostles forgot the Program and failed to go "to all Judea and to Samaria and to the uttermost part of the earth." The Lord had to let persecution come, even the death of Stephen, to scatter them abroad. Even then it was not the apostles, but lay Christians who went everywhere "preaching the Word." What a wonderful time the deacon Philip had in Samaria! "There was great joy in that city." Thus there is all the proof we need that witnessing is the whole mission of the whole Church for the whole age.

How miserably the Church has failed to carry out the Lord's Plan and Program, although the Promise and the Power are still available. Wherever we get back to the Lord's methods and implicitly trust

Him, witnessing proves that He was right and knows best how to win men to Himself.

There are many types of Evangelism, such as: (1) Personal evangelism; (2) Wayside Evangelism, begun by the deacon Philip with the Ethiopian Eunuch, and practiced today by so many with the "gospel bombs" and tracts; (3) Letter Evangelism, by which Dr. H. Clay Trumbull stated he had won more to Christ than by all his sermons; (4) Visitation Evangelism, going two by two as did the seventy at the Lord's command; (5) Pastoral Evangelism, with the invitation given constantly from the pulpit, so wonderfully exemplified by one church in my city which twelve years ago had 500 members and now has 12,000; (6) Mass Evangelism, so marvelously shown by Billy Graham's recent London campaign.

In Chattanooga we have had seven city-wide evangelistic campaigns of four to six weeks each in the past thirty-five years, one by Billy Sunday in 1919, two by John Brown, two by Mordecai Ham, one by Perry Webb, and last year by Billy Graham. We are planning now for another city-wide meeting in 1956.

A Laymen's Evangelistic Club is a great asset in leading men to engage in witnessing. Here we have been organized first as the Billy Sunday Club in 1920 and now as Fishers of Men and during these thirty-four years have led not less than 10,000 people to receive Christ, have had over thirty members go into full-time Christian work, have organized and run a Union Gospel Mission, where hundreds of the down-and-outs have been born again, and now are supporting our Prison Evangelist, who has won to the Lord hundreds behind the bars, averaging about fifty each week.

There is no joy comparable to the joy of winning men to Christ by witnessing. Now is the time of all times to do it, when men are faced with the fact that society can not save itself, but is headed for self-destruction. Only Jesus Saves!

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Teaching God's Word In The Church School A Job For Men As Well

By Chas. Rhodes Bradford

Asst. Mgr. Georgia Duck & Cordage Co.

Deacon and S. S. Superintendent
Decatur (Ga.) Presbyterian Church

In a recent survey we discovered that only one in five of our Church School teachers in the entire Southern Presbyterian Church are men! Facing the challenge of a rapidly growing enrollment, Church School leaders are praying that men, in ever increasing numbers, will join with faithful women, who have long carried much of the responsibility, and become teachers of the Word. To those of you who have not as yet sought the fruitful opportunities of service to Our Lord through this avenue, and have not known the inner satisfaction of being used in some small way to carry on the message of the Greatest Teacher, this challenge is directed.

You ask, "But why should I *teach*?" Here are at least three compelling reasons:

I. *Christ Commands It—*

Matthew records the very last words of Our Lord, "Go ye therefore, and *teach* all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20a).

These words Christ spoke to the eleven disciples who followed Him into the mountains, and to the countless thousands who were to profess His Name and follow Him in the centuries ahead. In a very real sense, His command is directed to you who bear the name Christian today. "Go ye - - and teach"; He is speaking directly to you.

Christ not only commanded His followers to teach, but set the example for us. As He sought to minister to the needs of people about Him, the New Testament record tells again and again how "He opened His mouth and taught them, saying — ."

Teaching God's Word and applying it with practical example to bring the light of truth to hungry souls is but following His example and command.

He offers no alternative to obedience: "If ye love me, keep my commandments." (John 14:15).

II. *The World Needs It—*

On the cover of a recent issue of one of our Christian magazines is shown the face of a clock. The circular area encloses a globe marked with the outlines of the continents of our world. In the center

is the picture of an atomic bomb. The hands of the clock point to three minutes to twelve. Thus is symbolized the desperate condition of our civilization. To even the casual or the calloused observer, it does seem that our time has about run out and that our world is tottering on the brink of final and complete destruction.

Under this sobering picture there appear the words, "Christ — Now." Herein lies the only hope—and the challenge. For at this late hour, men are beginning to comprehend the complete insufficiency of solutions offered by the world which have proven useless as they have failed in the practical test to regenerate and transform. Now, as never before, disillusioned hearts and minds are seeking *proven* remedies. Now, we can offer Christ and find more receptive souls, for He and only He has demonstrated the ability to change people's hearts and bring a new way of life to our world through reformed creatures. Yes, faith in Him is the desperate need of the world in this hour.

But, "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." (Romans 10:17). Most of those who are reborn to a new and transformed life of faith in Him are led by the Holy Spirit through the ministry of His Word.

All men have an inborn desire to contribute to the solution of the problems of their age—to help in some manner their fellowmen to find a more perfect way of peace and happiness. Tragically many suppress this God-sent yearning in a willful resignation to the impotent attitude of insignificance, saying, "What can just one man do?"

The challenge is inescapable; the logic to the Christian is clear: Teach the Word. Thus can a man effectively contribute and be used of his Lord to transform his world.

III. *A Man Grows By It—*

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (II Timothy 2:15).

As a Christian lives, follows His Master, and grows in grace, a burning desire possesses his soul: to one day show himself approved unto God. One of the amazing miracles of Christianity is that giving inevitably results in personal increase. So with teaching His Word. As a man prayerfully studies and teaches, the very words take root within himself and he grows daily in grace and Christ-likeness. Indeed, in his teaching, the Holy Spirit finds opportunity to transform his life.

Go ye, my Christian friend, and teach His Word. A sin-sick, desperate world gropes in darkness and the hour is late. Carry the light of His Truth to illusioned, weary souls and rejoice as they, and you, find newness of life and hope for our future.

Can you resist His call? Teach His Word!

A Christian's Devotions

By Wm. A. Sibley

Vice-President and Treasurer Monarch Mills
Elder in Union, South Carolina Church

We are living in a fast moving age. As a result, we seem to have so little time for our families, friends, even for God. I remember, as a child everything centered around the home and around the Church. Now, everyone is continually on the go. So many are reaching out for happiness, unable to see that it comes not to the hand that is ever stretched out to receive, but rather to those whose hands are stretched out to give. Erroneously, it is thought that happiness and satisfaction in life can come from the "abundance of things that a man possesses." Jesus, in His Sermon on the Mount, is endeavoring to get us to put our trust in God rather than in things. We, as Christians, *do* want the abundant life—we *do* want to live victoriously. But we are guilty of neglecting two of the greatest sources of God's power made available to man: namely, God's "Word" and "Prayer." They are the two sources available at all times of every day whereby man can feed his spiritual stature, and it is this daily devotion of reading God's Word and prayer that makes for the true satisfaction in life that every Christian craves.

But our danger and tendency is to let the everyday things of life crowd God out. We don't intend to, but neither does the sheep that goes astray, and like the sheep, our eyes are on the grass that we are nibbling and not on the shepherd, and before we know it the shepherd and the flock are gone and we are left in the wilderness.

Forgetting God is for an individual or a nation destruction. Deut. 8:19-20 confirms that statement: "And it shall be if thou do at all forget the Lord Thy God, and walk after other Gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish. As the nations which the Lord destroyeth before your face, so shall ye perish; because you would not be obedient unto the voice of the Lord your God." What sin today is more prevalent than that of forgetting God? It applies to all—young and old alike—not only to the frivolous and foolish; but to men at their tasks (so busy making money) to women in their homes (so busy with their cares) and social engagements. People in every walk of life are guilty, not only of crowding God out of our lives, but of our tendency to put our hope of security in material possessions. Like Lot, we first pitch our tent toward Sodom and before we are aware of what we have done we have entered Sodom, surrounded by its wickedness, and the end is destruction. But daily prayer and Bible

reading keep us from forgetting God, thereby preventing our destruction.

Next, a Christian's daily devotions strengthen life. We read in Isaiah 40:30-31, "Even the youths shall faint and be wearied, and the young men shall utterly fall; but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." Youth, the strongest of humanity, grow weary when dependent on their own strength. But the weakest can be strong with God's help. For there is full provision of God's power available to all of us as Paul has said in Philippians 4:19—"But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Yes, if we would truly desire a life that is full, abundant and triumphant, let us set aside a portion of every day for the reading of God's Word and prayer. Equipping ourselves with the sword of the spirit which is the word of God, and making contact with God through prayer, thereby enabling us to meet every trial, problem and temptation successfully, remembering that God has said "in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength." (Isaiah 30:15). Lastly, what of our example to others? But of more importance, to our children? Will they remember us for our Christian Devotions? In their mind's eye will they see us as readers of God's Word? In their inner consciousness will they hear our voice leading in prayer or picture us in our closet praying in secret to a God who rewards openly? How do you wish to be remembered by your closest friends, by your family, and more especially by your children? Is not the answer found in the First Psalm "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."?

Yes, for (1) an exemplary life, (2) for strength for each day, (3) to prevent our forgetting God, (4) for the abundant life—Let Christians be found daily in prayer and the reading of God's Word.

"I hereby give and bequeath to the Board of Directors of The Southern Presbyterian Journal Company (incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina) \$_____ for the use and benefit of said company."

MEN'S WORK IN OUR CHURCH

By Hugh S. Jacobs

Co-Owner Jacobs Bros., Printing &
Photo Engraving
Elder in First Presbyterian Church
Clinton, S. C.

New Orleans, long accustomed to the unusual in conventions, will witness this fall, a gathering of Presbyterian Laymen which has never been equaled. Compared by any method, it is outstanding . . . the number attending . . . the efficiency and effectiveness of the advance campaign . . . the list of speakers . . . and the spiritual revival that is accompanying the meeting. The most significant aspect of this meeting, however, is the fact that it represents a new day for the church, through men's work. It is positive proof of the revival that is taking place among our men.

Twenty years ago, it would not have been possible to create such enthusiasm over a church meeting. For too many years, our church has crept along slowly, leaning almost entirely on its ministers and women. Only a handful of men were active. Official church meetings were poorly attended by laymen, and the church's business was treated with indifference by many men.

This was not the church that Christ organized, when he placed everything in the hands of a small group of ordinary laymen. Nor is it the church our forefathers envisioned when they set up the Presbyterian type of government.

This was the general situation all over the General Assembly just a few years ago, when churches everywhere began to awaken to the need of active men. Local men's clubs were organized . . . existing clubs were reorganized . . . more attention was given to men's work on all levels, and through the work of inspired leaders, men began to move forward for Christ. The whole church took on a new look, because its men had taken on a new look.

The most important link in this chain was the local men's organization, and if this great movement is to continue to grow, the local groups must also grow.

In order for a club to reach all of the men, and enlist their support, it must have two efficient committees. A program committee and a projects committee.

The Sunday School is organized to teach the Bible, the worship services are to inspire us to better living, and the men's organization is the logical place for us to be educated in matters that pertain to our church itself. What we believe, why we believe it . . . what the different agencies and

boards do, and how they do it . . . where our money goes, and why it goes there. These facts that so few of us know, but which are vital information, if we are to be effective members of our church.

As business men we know that a new employee must be taught the fundamentals of his new job if he is to be worthwhile. Until he knows all there is to be known about the job, his employer will not get the maximum efficiency from him. The same is true of men in the church. Until we know and understand our church, and show an enlightened interest in its work, we cannot give the church all of the help that we are capable of giving. The increased interest that is evident today, is due to the fact that many of us are learning about our church for the first time.

A wide awake program committee can enliven men's interest through education and inspiration. We can capitalize on this increased enthusiasm, if we have an effective program of work for the men. This is the mission of the projects committee.

The projects committee sees to it that the local men's group has something worthwhile to do at all times. Members of the committee continuously ask leaders in the church and community for suggestions, and evaluate these suggestions. Some will require the entire membership of the club, others just a small committee. The main thing is to have every member busy at something. If he has been properly educated and inspired he will want to work, and unless he can find a place where he can be of value, his interest will be short lived.

We will all be inspired and enlightened at New Orleans. It is our duty as men of the church, to take this inspiration back to our local clubs, and to kindle new fires in men's work. The future of our church is in our hands. Until we have enlisted the support and prayers of every man in the entire church, we cannot say that we have reached the fullest potential of men's work.

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STEWARDSHIP

By **Kenneth S. Keyes**

Chairman of the Board The Keyes Co., Realtors
Elder in Shenandoah Church, Miami, Florida

One of the words that came to have a real meaning for us during the last war was the word "priority." We learned that the things which were most important to the war effort had to be given the right of way over everything else—that they had to come first.

I believe with all my heart that the lesson we Christians need most to learn is to put first things first. And God's Word reveals to us very plainly what those first things are.

When the lawyer asked Jesus which was the greatest of all the commandments, He replied, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind and with all thy strength."

This clear-cut statement from the Master's lips can mean only one thing: that God should have top priority in our lives. We are to love Him above everything else—to put His will ahead of our wills—to surrender our lives to Him.

It's logical that God should have first claim on our time. He has the power to take all of it. The years we will spend on this earth are in His hands.

It's reasonable that God should have first claim on our energy. Our health from which we derive our energy is under His control.

It's only fair that God should have first claim on our abilities because He gives us our talents of varying kinds.

And God should certainly have first claim on our money and on our other material possessions because the money we earn is the direct result of our use of the time, energy and ability that God has given to us.

Our problem, then—yours and mine—is first to definitely recognize God's prior claim on these things and then to actually acknowledge His claim in the way we live and handle our affairs.

It is important that we dedicate our time to God—that we use a portion of it for the daily study of God's Word and for a vital prayer life. It is important that we dedicate our energies and our abilities to God—that we use them to witness for Him—to serve Him in our daily walks of life.

But if we dedicate these things and hold back our money, we miss a very vital part of our Christian experience "for where your treasure is there will your heart be also."

In a very real sense the money we earn is our lives converted into dollars—it's our time, our energy and our ability—minted into coin.

When we face the facts fairly and squarely, we must admit that our money isn't ours at all in any lasting sense. We can't take it with us when we die; we can't even be sure of keeping it while we live for sudden reverses can sweep it all away. In the final analysis, then, money is simply something that God entrusts to us and allows us to use during our lifetime and God wants us to remember that fact and to render a proper accounting to Him.

God gives us in His Word a simple, practical and business-like plan that you and I can adopt with the assurance that we are rendering a proper accounting to Him. This plan is known as tithing—the setting aside of one-tenth of our income or profits, dedicating this tenth to the glory of God and using it for the advancement of His cause on the earth.

When God organized the Jewish people into a nation, He gave them a law which said, (Lev. 27:30): "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord's; it is holy unto the Lord." Note that it doesn't say: 'The tithe should be given to the Lord. It says it "is" the Lord's.

Years later the prophet Malachi was rebuking the Jewish people for indifference and disobedience to the laws of God. In Mal. 3:7-9 God speaks through the prophet about this law of the tithe. He doesn't accuse the people of neglecting their duty. He doesn't suggest that they have not been liberal enough. He says, "Ye have robbed me in tithes and offerings."

This plain statement certainly implies that when they withheld a part of that tenth—when they offered God the "leftovers" instead of the "first fruits"—they were taking from God something that belonged to Him.

If our Federal Government has the right to levy a tax on our incomes, surely, He who gives us time, energy and ability and provides the materials with which we earn those incomes has a perfect right to claim a definite part of them for His work.

There are some who take the position that Christians are not obligated to tithe because they are not under the law but under grace. Personally, I feel that the law of the tithe has never been repealed and is as binding on believers today as is the law of the Sabbath.

But it seems to me that we should pay to God His tenth for a greater reason than either law or duty. Our gratitude for the salvation that we have through His Son and our appreciation for the many blessings that we receive daily at His hand should prompt us to use at least a tenth of our incomes for His honor and glory.

The Layman and World Missions

By L. Nelson Bell, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Elder in the Montreat Church
Practicing Surgeon, Asheville, N. C.

Last night, while you were asleep, men and women who are your representatives in Japan and Korea and Formosa, were telling people of Christ their Saviour and Lord. They were doing this as evangelists, as teachers, as doctors and nurses. They were reaching out to people who but for their ministry would not know the greatest news in all the world, that God loves them and came Himself into this world to redeem them.

Were these missionaries of our church carrying on this work without your having helped pay the cost of such an enterprise? While they were working were they backed by your prayers? Or, are others supporting them without your sharing in the greatest task of the church?

As you read this article other men and women, also your representatives, are, *this very minute*, preaching, teaching, healing in Mexico, Brazil, Ecuador, Africa, Portugal.

Are these people on the out-posts of the world-wide mission fronts being backed by you with your prayers—your money—your interest?

World Ambassadors

In our deep concern over world affairs, and our concentration on the personalities who *seem* to dominate the world scene, we are prone to forget that the most important people are not those who sit down at the conference tables, or who carry on behind the scenes conversations. The men and women whose influence is the most far reaching right now and also for eternity are not the accredited diplomats of the nations,—they are the men and women who are the ambassadors of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, your missionaries, and all others who, like them, are trying to make Christ known as eternal Saviour and Lord and as the Prince of Peace, man's only hope in this life and for eternity.

Who Are They?

These missionaries are the sons and daughters of our church. Some of them have grown gray in the service. Some are young and eager and even now crossing the Pacific, or the Atlantic, or the Equator on the way to their posts of duty. They have been trained—and well trained—for their chosen and allotted tasks. They learn the language of the people with whom they work and they have given up the comforts and luxuries of home to live in places and under conditions most of us would be unwilling to endure, and they do it for a modest

stipend only. They are men and women called of God and approved by our church, to take the "Good News" to the uttermost parts of the earth.

Why Do They Go?

We are prone to forget that the great commission of our Lord was not to live comfortably, make money and have a good time. None of these may be excluded from consistent Christian living, but the great task of the Church is to make Christ known, at home and wherever people are to be found.

Some 48,000,000 people live in the areas for which our own Southern Presbyterian Church is responsible. This excludes China, now closed to missionaries, but even there the Holy Spirit is continuing the work your missionaries did for many decades, Chinese Christian men and women living for Christ amidst opposition, persecution and even unto death. But, God in His mercy has left great fields of opportunities in other lands today and because it is the greatest responsibility of the Church, our missionaries are out there doing this tremendously important work of making Christ known.

What Can You Do?

The task of world evangelization is something like that of maintaining an army, navy and air force. Our missionaries are on the front lines but the responsibility of supplying their needs rests squarely on us; to supply the munitions and all of the other things which go into the modern missionary enterprise.

It costs *money* to send men and women across the sea. It costs *money* to supply their daily needs, to help support schools and hospitals and clinics. It costs *money* to help support Christians in the various fields who go out to share in this work, men and women who in time will be supported by their own national churches. But, our mission work is a vanguard work, pioneering in new fields and new areas of service, while the fruits of our work are channeled into the national churches who carry on the established work while we help in new and pioneer work. All of this costs *money*, the *money* of men and women here at home who have sensed the need, caught the vision and realized that money invested in making Christ known is the *best investment* man can make.

Finally, you can *pray*. The average missionary, when asked what their greatest need is will reply, "The prayers of God's people." Have we sinned against them, and against God, by failing to *pray* for them daily?

Today is a day of great opportunity for world evangelization. No one knows what the future holds. But, we have God's command for today. The need is pressing. The chance for the greatest investment of all is before you. If you had a bona fide offer of an investment which would bring sure and large returns on your money you would hastily snatch it up. But, you could not take your profits into the next world with you.

The world mission enterprise offers you a share in the world's most important task, and the profits—souls won to Jesus Christ—last for all eternity.

You **MUST** invest.



Personal Evangelism

By Robert K. Price

President of Robert K. Price Co., Atlanta, Ga.

Elder Gordon Street Church

Personal evangelism is to me the spreading of the "Good News of Salvation" person to person. From the Scriptures it is the sacred privilege and inescapable duty of every born again believer to witness to others in some way. Our own experience of salvation should make us want to tell others.

More than this, it is God's plan that Christ be made known to our unbelieving world.

My Bible says "therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ and hath given unto us the ministry of reconciliation . . . now then we are ambassadors for Christ." (II Cor. 5).

My dictionary says that an ambassador is "a representative or agent of another charged with a special mission." Whether we accept it or not, it is just that plain. If we are Christians, followers of the Lord Jesus, then we are His ambassadors with portfolio, responsible to Him for that "ministry of reconciliation" which He has given us.

As for me, I make no claim of being chief ambassador, but I am a born again follower of Christ and am thankful and proud to be His special agent in my community, my business and my circle of friends. Though I have failed Him on many an occasion, I'm sorry to say, I have had the indescribable joy of witnessing for Him and leading lost souls into a saving knowledge of my Lord Jesus.

You may say, as I have said in the past, "I just can't talk to a stranger about his soul" and you may be right, but if you sincerely accept your ambassador's portfolio of responsibility and think of yourself as His special agent you will then know what He meant when He said "lo I am with you always."

As His special agent you will find that He can and will speak through you, through your life, often times even without your knowing it.

For the man who thinks he just cannot witness person to person, let me strongly recommend the use of good Scriptural tracts (a good one, "4 GREAT FACTS" is available from the Division of Evangelism, Board of Church Extension).

First of all **PRAY ABOUT IT!** If the Lord leads you to this means of witnessing, get a supply of tracts and have them with you. The Lord will open up the opportunities for you.

By all means be familiar with the plan of salvation. Commit to memory a few verses of Scripture setting forth the plan.

I like the "Roman Road" myself; "For all have sinned, and come short of the Glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23). "But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:9-10).

Always remember, there must be a sowing of the seed before there can be a harvest and the seed is the Word of God. No one was ever won to Christ in an argument. Fortify yourself with the Word, be prepared to witness to what you **KNOW** of salvation in your own life. Be much in Prayer! You will soon find yourself rejoicing as a fruitful soul winner.

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you" (John 15:16).

Remember:

(1) First of all you must have the **DESIRE** to win souls.

(2) You must **LEARN** to depend on the Spirit and be willing to follow the Spirit's lead — **BE MUCH IN PRAYER!**

(3) You must **BE PREPARED**—know the plan of salvation—have a Bible or Testament with you—also Scriptural tracts.

(4) You must learn to **BE ALERT** for opportunities to witness or place tracts effectively.

(5) You must always have a friendly approach be winsome, humble, sincere, tactful, positive.

"I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing" (John 15:5).

The Christian and His Business

By Thomas M. Eldridge
Eldridge Grading Co., Atlanta, Ga.

Who is a Christian? "And the disciples were called Christians first at Antioch." (Acts 11:28). One might suppose that a Christian is any person born in a country like America, where the predominant religion is the Christian faith. But this view does not agree with the Word of God, as declared in the Holy Bible. A Christian is a person who by faith in God's promises in His Word, has accepted Jesus Christ as his or her personal Saviour. I am a Christian because I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay my debt to God. I, as a sinner owed my life to God, but Jesus gave His life as a ransom for me, and praise God I am set free! There is no other way of approach to God, no other means of being reconciled, save by accepting Jesus Christ as personal Saviour. "I Am the Way the Truth and the Life, no man cometh unto the FATHER, but by ME." (John 14:6b). God's Word tells me that if I believe His promises in my heart and confess Jesus Christ as my Saviour before men, that He will forgive me and create a new heart within me. (John 3:16-18, 5:24; Rom. 10:9-10). By the Miracle of God's Grace I become a new creature in Christ. (II Cor. 5:17).

Christians are a people called out of the mass of unbelievers to glorify the name of Christ. We bear His name before all the world. We are *His Disciples, His Witnesses, His Representatives*, we belong to Him—not to ourselves. Because He bought us out of the slave-market of sin. We are *His Ambassadors* in the world of unsaved men. (Acts 15:13-18; Matt. 28:16-20; I Cor. 6:19-20; II Cor. 5:14-21).

Therefore the Christian and his business belong to the Lord. A Christian's business must be more than merely a legal one, it must be one that can be conducted for the glory of the Lord. No Christian should ever be employed in any business that is related to the sale of alcoholic drinks, gambling or games of chance even though the business may be permitted by law. There are other businesses

though legal, that from a Christian point of view, are destructive. Even the most humble occupation can be used to glorify our Lord if we do the job as unto Him. The Christian business man should put into practical every day living the essence of his belief. His business should be the proving ground of his faith. For it is here that our conduct, conversation and very way of life are on display for all the world to see. Our Lord and our faith are being judged by the unsaved man according to what he sees in us. We are the Ambassadors of Christ. The principles and ethics that we follow in the every day conduct of business must be of the very highest possible standard, lest we bring reproach to the name of our Lord. The Devil will always be ready to tempt us to take short-cuts, to use questionable methods and practices. But God is always faithful, He will not let us be tempted beyond what we can stand, He will provide a way of escape. (I Cor. 10:13).

How can a Christian business man resist the appeal to be expedient? Only by constant prayer and the reading of God's Word. We are told in the Bible that we must feed upon God's Word for spiritual strength. As we read His Word, our viewpoint is changed from that of the natural man to what the Apostle Paul calls the "Mind of Christ." (Phil. 2:5). We are to let the Holy Spirit use the Word of God to direct our thoughts and actions in order that they may be conformed to the will of God. Our every thought is to be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. (II Cor. 10:5). The Lord does not ask us to do the impossible. He has given us His Holy Spirit to indwell our hearts and lives. If we will allow Him, He will take control and run our life and our business for the glory of God.

BAPTISM

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[Test Check List For Elders]

The one to be used before the Judgment seat of Christ may not be very different from this one.

By Roy LeCraw

Attorney

Elder in North Avenue Church, Atlanta, Ga.

These 6 For Yourself:

1. Are you absolutely sure, beyond doubt, that you, yourself, are born again? John 3:3. (There may be some session members missing in "that day.")
2. Is your faith foundationed upon Christ Himself or upon anything less? 1st Corinthians 3:11. (True faith is not concerned about WHERE it is going. It only wants to know WHO is leading.)
3. Are you hot, lukewarm or cold? Revelation 3:15-16. (The most despicable term "spue thee out of my mouth" is applied to the lukewarm church-members.)
4. Are your prayers mostly petitions for you and yours or are you calling upon the Lord in a sincere effort to discover His will? Jeremiah 33:3. (The prayer that brings joy in heaven is "Lord show me what you would have me to do and I'll do it.")
5. Are you living a "separated" life or are you conforming to the world? (Could you be picked out of a lineup as being Christian?) 2nd Corinthians 6:17.
6. What kind of a sermon does your daily life preach? Ephesians 4:1. (The minister preaches to the congregation with words but the Elder's sermon is preached with the life he lives and the service he renders.)

And These 6 Concern Your Attitude Toward Others:

7. Are you the Priest, the Levite or the good Samaritan? Luke 10:30-35. (Some Elders "pass by on the other side," but remember, our every act is "for the record.")
8. Are you setting an example to the congregation by Tithing? Malachi 3:7-10-11 also Luke 11:42, (God's Finance Plan is the minimum Tithe. An Elder's non-tithing could cause a "brother to err.")
9. How about the simple duties such as prayer meeting and Sunday night attendance, visiting the sick, working in the Sunday School, etc.? Revelation 14:15. (One thing we do take with us when we leave this earth—the record.)
10. How about the second great commandment to Christians. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy-

self"? Matthew 22:39. (This is a vital test. Are you meeting it?)

11. Rate yourself honestly as a criticizer and a self appointed judge of others. Read carefully first that searching verse Romans 2:1.

12. Can you give yourself a passing grade on I Thessalonians 5:14. "Warn them that are unruly, comfort the feeble-minded, support the weak, be patient toward all men."?

I dare you to use this check list as a yardstick for measuring your effectiveness as an Elder or as a Deacon in the Presbyterian Church.

Knowledge And Ignorance

By Gordon H. Clark, Ph.D.

Professor of Philosophy in Butler University
Indianapolis, Indiana

This is the third of a series of articles written by Dr. Clark for the Journal. Others will follow.

On one occasion I gave a series of (supposedly popular) theological lectures for the congregation of a brother minister. After one service when most of the people had gone home, one of the women with the pastor remained for conversation. Going beyond the limits of the lecture I continued by arguing that the phrase, "He descended into hell," might well be omitted from the Apostle's Creed. True, I had no conscientious reason for not using it, for Christ did indeed suffer the pains of hell for our redemption. But because of the real danger of fanciful interpretation of I Peter 3:19, I thought the omission might be wise. The woman resisted this line of argument with a determination that at first puzzled me. I finally came to understand when she very politely undertook to give me a gentle rebuke. When a group of the most learned and devout Christian scholars, she said, give careful consideration to the formulation of a Creed, it borders on rashness to attempt alterations.

The woman's statement is highly commendable, particularly in the present century when creeds are held in little honor. But unfortunately this woman did not know that the Apostle's Creed was not the result of learned discussions, as was the Nicene Creed, and that from the earliest times to the pres-

ent it has been recited in different forms. On this point the woman was unfortunately ignorant.

To most people such ignorance will appear to be a matter of little importance. "It will not cause the woman to lead an evil life; there is little danger that she will come to believe in purgatory; and even if she entertains fanciful interpretations of I Peter 3:19, what harm will it do?"

Now it must be granted that the illustration gives a rather minor instance of ignorance. It is hard to imagine any great harm resulting from the lack of this one piece of information. On the other hand, do we not all admit that, in general, ignorance is undesirable? And is it not possible that the lack of several pieces of information, even if each by itself is minor, could result in a moderate amount of harm?

Let us choose another illustration. Not long after the conversation with that woman, I was studying the relation of the church to the state. It is an important problem. Now, of course, I am not as other men, or even as this ignorant woman; I study twice in the week, and give attention to all the books I possess; and this I have done from my youth up. But when I read *Aaron's Rod Blossoming* by George Gillespie, and some other works by that remarkable young man, I could only lower my eyes from heaven to earth, smite on my breast, and cry, God be merciful to me an ignoramus.

The course of church history, like the charts of the stock market, has its peaks and depressions. After the deep abyss of Romish ignorance and superstition there came a great discovery of God's truth in the sixteenth century. At an astounding rate new knowledge of the divine revelation was discovered by the leaders and taught to the populace. The culmination of those times of refreshing is enshrined in the Westminster Confession. But since then there has been a fairly steady process of forgetting. What in that day was a compendium for children, the Shorter Catechism, is today more than ample for a seminary graduate requesting ordination of Presbytery. And is there any twentieth century Jenny Geddes ready to throw her stool at some prominent neo-orthodox moderator? Does our present day Mrs. Geddes know what neo-orthodoxy is? For that matter, does she know what orthodoxy is?

From the time of the apostles to the present moment, there has been no revival of true religion remotely approaching the Protestant Reformation. The conspicuous difference between that age and all others is the amount of Biblical information. Even in the Middle Ages there must have been, and in modern times too there undoubtedly are, men of zeal, humility, and devotion. But the Reformers knew the Scripture in great detail and understood its implications. They took great pains to teach exactly what God had revealed. Would not a rediscovery of this truth today produce results similar to those of the Reformation? And what

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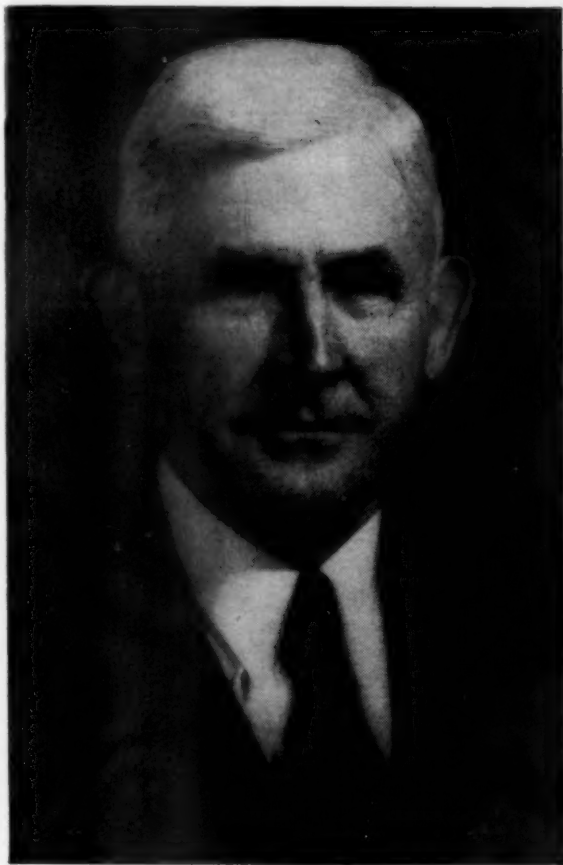
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Are We A Christian Nation?

J. EDGAR HOOVER, Chief of our F.B.I., reveals some very shocking facts in Crimes in America. He says that: "People spend eight times more hours at movies than at Sunday School; Only one out of 12 persons in our country attends Church; Seven out of eight children quit Church and Sunday School attendance before they reach 15 years of age; Fifteen million sex magazines are printed monthly and read by one-third of the American People; There are more barmaids in this country than college girls; One million American girls have venereal disease; One hundred thousand girls disappear every year into white slavery; One million illegitimate babies are born annually; There are almost a million illegal abortions performed annually; Our nation harbors three times as many criminals as college students; A major crime is committed every 22 seconds, an aggravated assault or rape every hour; a murder every 40 minutes; There are sixty suicides in our nation daily and three out of ten who start as light drinkers end up drunkards."

—Civic Bulletin.



DR. JOHN B. WRIGHT

FORTY YEARS WORTH OF A LAYMAN

Here is a thumb-nail sketch of a 20th Century Barnabas. It is written by a fellow townsman. Outpost work like this results in saved souls, the building of Christian character and the establishment of self-supporting churches. It is not a conspicuous work, does not make the headlines in the daily paper, but is the kind which counts for Jesus Christ and wins the most coveted of all commendation from the lips of our Lord, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Yes, it costs something; it means much sacrifice of home life and missing one's Sunday afternoon nap; and for a man whose week days are crowded with his secular business, those Sunday hours at home are priceless. But it brings its sure reward in the satisfaction of knowing that a certain community is growing in a fuller knowledge of the Bible and of the Lord Jesus Christ because YOU are giving self and time and thought and prayer to it.

The Lord must have had men like this in mind when He said, "Ye are the salt of the earth."

The Sketch:

Forty years is a good while. Eighty years is longer still. Dr. John B. Wright, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat specialist of Raleigh, N. C., has been making a weekly visit out to what was known as Myatt's Chapel for nearly forty years.

Quite recently the Church celebrated his eightieth birthday, which was September 4th, by presenting him a set of resolutions from the Session and a Bible from the Men of the Church. All felt that there was little that could be done to adequately express their true appreciation for such a distinguished record of outstanding Christian service, over such a long period of time.

When Dr. Wright came to Raleigh from Lincolnton late in 1914 he brought with him his church letter. He also informed Dr. W. McC. White then pastor of the First Church of his deep interest in outpost work. Dr. White had commenced a short time before, this, his first chapel out in the country. He told Dr. Wright that he would like for him to go out to Myatt's immediately, and he promptly agreed. He has been going ever since. So now, he is in his fortieth year of notable service to this church and community. He first taught a group of boys that had a habit of loafing on Sunday afternoon, but who became actively interested under his leadership. Next he taught the adults. At first he became an elder in the First Church, but later joined Myatt's and was elected an elder there. He is not only highly respected in the church and community but greatly beloved by all the people, many of whom have followed his leadership since childhood. What he has meant in this unique and long period of service only eternity can tell.

The latest major undertaking of the Earnest Myatt Church was to break ground recently for the John B. Wright Educational Building. This new addition to the church plant will fill a long felt need in the prosecution of the work in housing a growing Sunday School. We can truly thank God for the stalwart character plus the Christian teaching and example of Dr. Wright. We realize that we have been blessed beyond words.

Extra Copies This Issue Available

We have printed some extra copies of this issue and they are available at five cents each as long as our limited supply lasts. Write at once if you want these.

ANGLERS

(By The Editor Of The Testament
For Fishers Of Men)

Lesson No. 77

MAN TO MAN

A speaker at one of our laymen's conventions some years ago said, "Unless you are building your life around some impelling spiritual objective, Jesus Christ is losing." He might have added, "But for you the loss is nothing less than tragic." There are literally thousands of laymen in the Southern Presbyterian Church, who to all appearances have no spiritual objective. "A vast multitude of nominal Christians in disuse, registering zero in the vital service they might be effectively doing. This is not taking into account the positively bad who have given themselves over to evil; but the *negatively good*—respectable citizens, *but of no force in the kingdom of God.*" (Columnist Brisbane).

If there ever was a wide open field for person to person service it is in personal evangelism—individuals to individuals. Indeed, if evangelism in our church seems to be bogged down—and if it requires an average of 26 church members a whole year to win one soul to Christ (as shown by reports to the General Assembly last Spring) the term "bogged down" is not an exaggeration; if progress seems to be exceedingly slow, it is largely attributable to the fact that laymen are not working at the job. The picture is even worse when you consider that a great proportion of the "additions on profession of faith" consist of very young people coming in through the Sunday school and the converts received in special evangelistic services. A safe guess would be that 75% of "additions" come through these two activities. If that be true, then the average would be 100 laymen in twelve months winning one soul to Christ. Gentlemen, that is not right. We are evidently leaving this matter of "witnessing" to the preachers and the faithful women Sunday school teachers.

There is no doubt but that a business or professional man has an angle of approach that is not available to pastors and evangelists. People are not surprised when ministers speak to them about their souls. They say, "It is their business—it is the way they make their living—they are paid for it." They may not say this, but they think it; but let a business or professional man interrupt his busy program

and take time out to go to see his neighbor about his soul's salvation, or speak to his clerk or his boss on this subject—that is out of the ordinary, and is bound to cause one to stop and think, possibly as he never thought before.

Andy Gump may be credited with at least one sensible remark: "One satisfied customer who tells his neighbor will sell more goods than a whole page advertisement." And if a man has discovered something that gives him a peculiar satisfaction he just naturally likes to tell about it, which leads to the question whether you have really come into the full enjoyment of your relation to Jesus Christ. If not, then your first business is to make a full surrender and let Him show you what it is to be a real Christian. By your silence it is quite possible you are giving the impression that you are "a dissatisfied customer." You may be surprised to know how many unsaved people are forming their opinion and governing their (non) action by listening to your silence!

Not only are your unsaved friends and acquaintances suffering a tragic loss by your failure to witness to them, but you yourself are missing a great wealth of satisfaction. You are actually uncomfortable in your church relationship. One of the happiest men I ever knew was the proprietor of a large and growing business. He worked hard from morning till night—and often late in the night. Yet he found time to do a great deal of personal work. Every man and woman in his employ were Christians; he had seen to that. Their spiritual status was his first concern, and if they did not know his Master he lost no time introducing them to Him. He won many of his business acquaintances to Christ. I asked him one day how in his busy business life he managed to win so many. He is a modest fellow and did not like to take credit to himself, but when I insisted, he told me this: he said that before leaving his bedroom in the morning he always read a few verses in his Bible and had a little time of prayer. In that prayer he would say, "Lord tell me to whom you want me to speak to for you today. Lord you know how busy I am; when I reach my office this morning my desk will be piled high with business, some unfinished and some new business; but in the course of the day if there is some one I should witness to, make it plain to me and give me the grace and the loyalty to do it." He said hardly a day passed but some customer, or prospective customer would come in for an interview, and if he let the man talk, sooner or later he would begin telling of some personal problem. Right there it would seem that the Lord said, "Well, here's your man; tell him how I have helped you with a somewhat similar problem." It is not hard to do when you get into the habit of it.

The opportunity will always open up if you are looking for one.

LESSON FOR OCTOBER 24

Guidance For Family Living

Background Scripture: Proverbs 4; 6:20-7:27; 17:1; 19:13, 14; 31:10-31. Devotional Reading: I Corinthians 13.

Guidance for Family Living might be summed up in one word: LOVE; the sort of Christian Love which is described for us in our Devotional Reading, (I Cor. 13). In this familiar and most beautiful chapter, The Hymn of Love, Paul describes what has been well called, The Greatest Thing in the World. All other gifts are worthless without it; eloquence, prophecy, knowledge, faith, generosity, martyrdom. When you separate Love into its component parts it is like taking the white light and breaking it up into all the colors of the rainbow. Love includes patience and kindness; it excludes envy, boasting, and pride; it makes us courteous and unselfish; it is not easily provoked, and thinketh no evil. It never rejoices in iniquity, but always in the truth. It beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. It is a permanent possession; Now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Christian love is needed everywhere; it is absolutely indispensable in the Home. When this tie binds all the members of the family together we have the ideal Home, closely akin to Heaven.

In a practical Book like Proverbs it is natural for this subject of Family Life to be treated. In our lesson we have both sides, the good and the bad, vividly portrayed, for a Home can be very much of a heaven, or very much of a hell. A man may be blessed and happy, or he may be miserable. We see the two extremes, and all the varieties between the two.

I. Two Homes Contrasted: Proverbs 17:1; 19:13, 14.

In these three verses we have two "snapshots" of two homes: the first, "a dry morsel and quietness"; the second, "A home full of feasting with strife." The very poor can have happy homes, if there is peace and quietness, while the rich may be miserable, if there is quarreling. With one stroke of the pen the writer makes us see clearly that happiness does not depend upon the abundance of good things to eat, but upon the condition of the heart.

In the second picture we see another contrast; a foolish son and a contentious, "nagging" wife, make a miserable home. A foolish son is the ruin of his father. Have we not all seen vivid illustrations of this? "A prudent wife is from the Lord, far better than wealth. Many a husband can vouch for the truth of this simple statement. In our day we seem to think that happiness in the home depends upon our income; if a man is making a good salary, then we presume that he will have a happy home. It takes more than money to make a home.

II. A Good Father and a Good Mother: 6:20 - 7:27.

"The commandment of thy father and the law of thy mother, (teaching of thy mother, R. V.). Here is authority and love combined. These are to be bound upon our hearts and tied about our neck. How important is such parental instruction! Those of us who can look back and remember such fathers and mothers have reason to be very grateful to God, for there are some who cannot. These early impressions and teaching never are completely erased from our memory. When we walk, they lead us; wherever we go, they are with us; "For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life" (R. S. V.). It is a wonderful blessing to have parents who will teach and discipline.

"To preserve thee from the evil woman, and the smooth tongue of the adventuress." The memory of a good mother and her teaching has kept many a man from the snares of the "strange woman." There were two streets in the city near my boyhood home which might have been called, "Saloon Street," and the "Street of Strange Women." How carefully our mother warned us of the dangers of both!

Verses 6:23 - 7:27 contain one of the most solemn warnings of the Scriptures. It describes for us the Way to Hell (Sheol, or Death), for there is no surer path to destruction of body, mind, and soul, than the way of the "adventuress" with her enticing words.

There is a break between the two sections—7:1-5—in which we are urged to "keep my commandments and live," to pursue the path of wisdom and life. The object of this instruction is to keep us from loose women. Many a victim has she laid low; yea, all her slain are a mighty host. I saw a striking article in Good Housekeeping Magazine entitled "Unchastity is a Sin." The writer speaks the truth. There are so many today who try to palliate this terrible sin. It is very rarely that the truth of Bible

teaching is proclaimed. Why not tell our young people the truth? Why not impress upon them the fact that some things are wrong? The Word of God reveals sin in all its blackness, and tells us the dire consequences of our sins. We are to hate evil in all its forms and flee from it as we would from a terrible plague.

A good father and a good mother, by their example, and by their teaching, can do much to save the youth of our land. Woe to the fathers and mothers who neglect their duty and their opportunity! There are sad broken homes where not only is there no instruction in righteousness, but the father and mother set the example in unfaithfulness and impurity. A judge, in pronouncing sentence upon a young girl said something like this to the parents; Turning to the mother, he rebuked her thus: You thought more of your poodle than of your daughter, and neglected her while you petted the dog. Then turning to the father, he said, You were so busy making money that you had no time to look after your child. The blame for juvenile crime should often be laid on the father and mother, who are indifferent, and even set the evil example for their children.

Perhaps Solomon is thinking of the sad wreck of his own home, and the shame of his own departure from God. Out of his own bitter experience he could, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, write these solemn words of warning to all fathers and mothers. This whole section presents a vivid contrast; the Home of the good father and mother is a foretaste of heaven; the house of the harlot is a house of hell.

III. *A GOOD Wife:* Proverbs 31:10-31.

"A good wife is from the Lord"; all of us can say, Amen.

This is one of the most beautiful chapters in the Bible. I have used it at the funeral services of several splendid Christian mothers. A daughter said to me after one such service, I never knew my mother to say a mean or ugly thing about anyone. A son said, Where did you get such a beautiful poem, so true of my mother. I wish to briefly notice some of the verses in this description of the "Virtuous Woman."

"A good wife who can find? She is more precious than jewels" (R.S.V.). I am sure that there are millions of men who will heartily agree with this statement. The best earthly gift that God has given us is such a wife. "The heart of her husband trusts in her." There is never the shadow of a doubt about her faithfulness to her marriage vows. This should not be a one-sided affair, however. It ought to be equally true that the heart of the wife trusts in her husband. I read of such a woman, and even when circumstances seemed to point to guilt on his part, she refused to even suspect him. Her trust was amply rewarded for he was completely innocent. He knew that his wife trusted him implicitly and never

betrayed that trust. Such mutual faith is a fine foundation for a home.

She does him good and not harm all the days of her life. Many a man owes his success in business to his wife, as she keeps the home and looks after his interests in every way. She is a true "helpmeet"; industrious, thrifty, wise. She works with her hands; she looks well after her household; she invests her money wisely; she provides for the future needs of her family. (I think of the many things I have seen stored away in pantry and closet and cellar, in some of the homes I have visited). Her husband is known in the gates as he sits among the elders of the land. Many a man in some place of responsibility owes much of his success to his wife.

In her tongue is the law of kindness. Her children rise up and call her blessed. I have seen this over and over again in my ministry. Her husband praises her. This is another of her rich rewards.

What is the secret of her character? What makes her more precious than jewels? Not outward beauty, but beauty of heart; A woman who fears the Lord. God grant that America be filled with such women!

Church News

A New Building For Petal

Hattiesburg, Mississippi. — The Petal Presbyterian Church has completed an annex at the cost of \$8,000, including the lot. It has been named The Williams Educational Building, in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Howard S. Williams who were the "spark plug" in the building project. Mr. Williams has been the supply pastor for Petal the past three years.

Montgomery Presbytery

At a Called Meeting of Montgomery Presbytery on September 27, 1954, Rev. George M. Ogilvie was dismissed to Abingdon Presbytery that he may become pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Pulaski, Virginia; Rev. Howard C. Leming, from Pee Dee Presbytery, was received that he may become Minister of Education at the First Presbyterian Church of Roanoke, Virginia. Rev. James C. Long became pastor of the Bethesda Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg, Virginia, September 19, 1954.

—E. W. Smith, Stated Clerk.

Dr. John A. MacLean To Eastminster Church

Richmond, Va. — Dr. John A. MacLean, pastor of the Ginter Park Church has accepted a call to the Eastminster Church, Melbourne, Fla., and will take up his duties there about November 1st next.

YOUTH PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER 24

Foreign Missions At Home

DEVOTIONAL:

Hymn: "Safely Through Another Week"

Prayer

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-46

Hymn: "In Christ There Is No East Or West"

Offering

Hymn: "O Zion, Haste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling"

PROGRAM LEADER:

Most Presbyterians are well aware that our church is missionary minded. We know that we have a Board of World Missions, and we know that through the work of this board our church is carrying the Gospel to people of other lands who live in spiritual darkness. We have also heard of the Board of Church Extension, and we know that its work is to extend the witness of the church in our home land. We used to call this part of the church's work "home missions." We generally think of foreign missions as preaching the gospel to people of other nationalities in foreign lands, and we think of home missions as taking the gospel to people of our own kind in our own land. Our Board of Church Extension does a task which is neither foreign missions nor home missions. It is called the Foreign Language Work of the Board of Church Extension, and it is truly foreign missions at home. Our speakers will tell of what our church is doing to minister in the name of Christ to people of other nationalities who live in our midst.

First Speaker:

The Rev. Dayton Castleman, Director of the Chinese Presbyterian Mission in New Orleans, has said that he hoped for years to be a missionary to China. The Lord did not see fit to send Mr. Castleman to China, but He did bring some of the Chinese people to New Orleans, and Mr. Castleman is their minister.

The mission work among the Chinese in New Orleans began seventy-two years ago. Of the 138,000 Chinese people in the United States only eight per cent are Christians, but in New Orleans thirty per cent are Christians. This indicates the success of our mission there. The program of the mission includes evangelism, education, worship, and wholesome social activities for these Chinese Christians. In May 1953 a new educational building was dedicated. This building is the first unit of a proposed physical plant which will make possible a larger ministry to the Chinese people of New Orleans. The mission has been successful not only in witnessing to local people, but also to the crews of Chinese ships which put in at New Orleans.

Second Speaker:

Just fifty miles north of New Orleans, near Hammond, Louisiana, is the Hungarian Presbyterian Church. This foreign language work was begun in 1907. Since 1921 the pastor of the church has been the Rev. Alexander Bartus, who is a son of the mission. Throughout the years this church has provided for its colony of Hungarian people a well rounded church program in their own language. The success of the work is indicated by the fact that Mr. Bartus was selected as the rural minister of the year in 1951. The Hungarian Church is no parasite, expecting to be supported always by someone else, for in 1946 it was instrumental in organizing an English-speaking church in a nearby community.

Third Speaker:

Another of our foreign language projects is located in the north-west corner of our General Assembly. It is the Italian Mission of Kansas City, Missouri. This work was organized in 1908, and since 1918 has been under the direction of the Rev. J. B. Bisceglia (pronounced bi-sail'-ya). The mission had a small beginning, but it now provides a program for the spiritual and social life of Italian people in two communities of Kansas City. In 1951 Christ Presbyterian Church was organized with three hundred people of the mission making up its membership. The Presbyterian mission is the only Protestant work among the Italian people. Every effort is being made to reach all ages for Christ. The program includes nursery schools, social centers, and recreational opportunities in addition to the normal educational and evangelistic program of the church.

Fourth Speaker:

The work which is most closely related by nature to the Italian mission is the Ybor (pronounced ee'-bor) City Presbyterian Mission of Tampa, Florida. Ybor City is the Latin Quarter of Tampa. Its people come from Italy, Cuba, and Spain, and they are largely employed in the local cigar factories. The director of this mission is the Rev. Walter B. Passiglia (pronounced pe-seel'-ya), a son of the Italian Mission in Kansas City. The program of the Ybor City mission is quite similar to that of the Kansas City mission, except that services at Ybor are conducted in three languages: Spanish, Italian, and English. Although most of the thirty-five thousand inhabitants of Ybor City have a Roman Catholic background less than twenty per cent are actually churched. This should reveal the great opportunity and challenge of the mission. The fact that eight young people from the mission have vol-

unteered for full-time church service indicates the effect the mission is having on the people.

Fifth Speaker:

The other foreign language project of the church is located at another corner of the General Assembly. It is the Emmanuel Center in Baltimore, Maryland. Emmanuel Center is a mission to the Jews which our church operates in cooperation with the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. The center is under the direction of the Rev. Ludwig R. Dewitz. The activities of the mission include a day nursery, children's groups, adult Bible classes, visitation, and a periodic letter which is mailed out to some 800 persons. Many Jewish people have shown a keen interest in Christianity, but progress is slow due to the persecution which is visited upon Jews who accept Christ as their Messiah.

BOOKS

All books reviewed in this department may be secured, postpaid, by ordering from The Southern Presbyterian Journal, Weaverville, N. C.

TWELVE SERMONS ON THE PASSION AND DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST. Charles Haddon Spurgeon. Zondervan Publishing House. Price \$2.50.

Spurgeon's unusual gift with words made it possible for him to picture before his listeners the very scenes he was describing. This compilation of twelve of his best sermons on the atonement of Christ are as up-to-date as they were the moment they were preached. The dramatic scenes of our Lord's last days upon this earth are vividly pictured to us in this series of unforgettable sermons.

MISSIONS AT THE CROSSROADS. Dr. T. Stanley Soltau. Van Kampen Press. Price \$2.50.

"The indigenous church—a solution for the unfinished task" is the theme of this new book by Dr. Soltau, former missionary to Korea.

Dr. Soltau shows that the Lord is working in mighty miracles through His church today which will result in carrying to the uttermost parts of the earth the glorious news of salvation. The question is raised, what will happen to foreign missions as the various countries close their borders to the missionary? He believes the answer is found in the indigenous church with the national Christian leaders directing the work and making the decisions upon which the whole future of the Christian movement in those lands will depend. How to create the indigenous church on every mission field is outlined by the author who has made these principles workable during his years in Korea.



GIFTS THAT LIVE AFTER YOU

An ideal way to perpetuate one's Christian influence, or the memory of a loved one, is to establish an endowment or memorial fund with the Board of World Missions.

Interest from such a fund goes annually to the support of Foreign Missions — a perennial contribution in your name or in that of your loved one.

Endowments and memorial funds may be started with a small amount and additions made from time to time whenever you desire.

Your Board of World Missions, its officers and employees, pledge themselves to strive earnestly to meet the responsibility of making your gift accomplish the utmost for His Kingdom around the world.

For particulars regarding endowments or memorial funds and how they are made and used, write



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